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*Admitted only in Maryland *Admitted only in Virginia •Practice Limited to Federal Agencies

February 27, 2004

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER: (202) 772-8525 INTERNET ADDRESS: BRIAND@SKGF.COM

Art Unit 1645

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Appl. No. 10/622,124; Filed: July 18, 2003

For: **Ghrelin-Carrier Conjugates**Inventors: BACHMANN *et al.*Our Ref: 1700.0340001/BJD/SJE

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement;
- 2. Form PTO-1449 (3 sheets citing 12 documents);
- 3. 11 documents cited in Form PTO-1449 (attached); and
- 4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Brian J. Del Buono Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 42,473

BJD/SJE/lam Enclosures

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

BACHMANN et al.

Appl. No.: 10/622,124

Filed: July 18, 2003

For: Ghrelin-Carrier Conjugates

Confirmation No.: 3313

Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 1700.0340001/BJD/SJE

Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The numbering on this Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is a continuation of the numbering in Applicants' Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on January 15, 2004 in connection with the above-captioned application.

A copy of document AG3 is not provided in accordance with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office pre-OG notice of July 11, 2003, which states "[t]he Office hereby waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003."

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may

not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox p.l.l.c.

Brian J. Del Buono Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 42,473

Date: February 27, 2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005-3934 (202) 371-2600

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FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

FORM PTO-1449

Page 3 of 3
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